

Message Text

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11

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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O 150650Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5191

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 4506

EXDIS

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR AKINS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, MASS, MARR, SA, IS, US, XF

SUBJ: RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

REF: STATE 203650

SUMMARY PRINCE NAWWAF OCTOBER 14 EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT CONSTRUCTIVE
TONE OF PRESIDENT'S ORAL REPLY TO FAYSAL'S MESSAGE OF OCTOBER

11. NAWWAF BELIEVED HOWEVER KING WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE
PLEASED IF LETTER HAD (A) PROVIDED SPECIFIC ASSURANCES U.S.
WOULD NOT MILITARILY SUPPORT ISRAEL, AND (B) DEALT MORE
SPECIFICALLY WITH U.S PLAN FOR EARLY SOLUTION ALONG LINES
U.N. RES. 242. CHARGE ASKED THAT DEPT SPOKESMAN'S ASSURANCE
THAT USG NOT MILITARILY INVOLVED BE PASSED TO KING; HE
EXPRESSED THANKS FOR SAUDI MEDIA'S RESPONSIBLE TREATMENT OF
VARIOUS FALSE REPORTS. NAWWAF AND PHARAON URGED THAT USG HASTEN
SECRET

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TO IMPOSE A SOLUTION ON MIDDLE EAST TO MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT, IF
NEED BE WITH SOVIET SUPPORT. PROLONGATION OF FIGHTING COULD ONLY
INCREASE NUMBER OF STATES INVOLVED, COMPLICATE EFFORTS FOR A
SOLUTPON, AND RESULT IN INCREASED SOVIET INFLUENCE IN A

POST-WARA ARAB WORLD. IN CLOSING, NAWWAF NOTED HE HAD HEARD AMB. AKINS WAS ARRIVING TOMORROW; PRINCE SAID HE WAS AWARE OF AMBASSADOR'S CONTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD M.E. AND WELCOMED HIS COMING.

1. DURING HOUR'S MEETING AT DIWAN IN RIYADH OCTOBER 14, CHARGE (ACCOMPANIED BY POL OFFICER DEFORD) READ IN ARABIC TO PRINCE NAWWAF AND ROYAL COUNSELOR RASHAD PHARAON PRESIDENT'S ORAL REPLY TO KING FEISAL'S LETTER. (TEXT SUBSEQUENTLY LEFT WITH PRINCE).

2. NAWWAF AND PHARAON LISTENED WITH CARE, AND AFTERWARDS REMARKED THAT LETTER GOOD, POSITIVE IN TONE, AND THAT UCNG WOULD PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE PROMPTNESS WITH WHICH PRESEIDENT-IN MIDST OF HIS MANY OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES--HAD BEEN ABLE TO RESPOND. NAWWAF THEN ADDED THAT GOOD AS PRESIDENT'S LETTER WAS, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE PLEASING TO H.M. IF IT HAD INCLUDED (A) SPECIFIC ASSURANCES ABOUT U.S. WOULD NOT MILITARY SUPPORT ISRAEL-- A POINT RAISED IN KING'S LETTER, AND (B) MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT U.S. PLANS TO IMPLEMENT A PEACE SETTLEMENT IN M.E. ALONG LINES OF U.N. RESOLUTION 242. AFFIRMED THAT SAG HAD NOTED DENIALS BY U.S. SPOKESMEN OF STORIES THAT USG MILITARILY AIDING ISRAEL. BUT IT WOULD STILL HAVE BEEN NICE IF SUCH STATEMENTS HAD BEEN REPEATED IN LETTER.

3. CHARGE HOPED THAT PRINCE NAWWAF WOULD IN ANY CASE TRANSMIT TO HIS MAJESTY--IN ADDITION TO CONTENTS OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER--ASSURANCE OF DEPT OF STATE SPOKESMAN THAT "THERE NO AMERICAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT" IN FIGHTING. PRINCE SAID HE WOULD DO SO. CHARGE ALSO THANKED H.R.H. FOR RESPONSIBILITY AND RESTRAINT OF SAUDI MEDIA IN HANDLING VARIOUS FALSE AND TROUBLESOME REPORTS ABOUT ROLE OF U.S. IN CURRENT FIGHTING. AS FOR NATURE OF U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE ITSELF, DREW PRINCE'S ATTENTION AGAIN TO PORTION OF PRESIDENT'S REPLY THAT STATED "THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS DOING ALL THAT IT POSSIBLY CAN TO BRING HOSTILITIES TO AN EARLY END."

4. NAWWAF REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT WANT U.S. TO BELIEVE THAT
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S.A.G. FOUND LETTER UNSATISFACTORY. SUCH STATEMENTS AS "THE U.S. IS NEITHER PRO-ISRAELI NOR PRO-ARAB" ARE PLEASANT TO HEAR. BUT SAUDI ARABIA AND OTHER MODERATES NOW FACE A SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST WHERE POLITICAL PRESSURES MOUNTING AND WILL SOON REACH DANGER POINT IF SOME SWIFT AND DECISIVE ACTION NOT SOON TAKEN TO IMPOSE A SOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH U.N. RES 242.

5. AS RESULT OF THESE PRESSURES, SAG HAD FELT IT NECESSARY TO DISPATCH TROOPS TO JORDAN, AND HAD THAT EVENING MADE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THESE SAUDI FORCES HAD REACHED SYRIA. OTHER ARAB STATES WERE BECOMING INVOLVED--THE SUDAN BEING THE LATEST--AND AS THE PARTICIPANTS TO THE CONFLICT BECAME MORE NUMEROUS,

SO THE ARAB DIPLOMATIC POSITION TOWARD A SETTLEMENT MIGHT BECOME MORE CONFUSED AND COMPLICATED.

6. PHARAON ADDED WITH CONSIDERABLE VENEMENCE THAT SAUDIS DEEPLY APPREHENSIVE ALSO THAT SOVIET INFLUENCE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ON RISE AGAIN IF CONFLICT CONTINUES. SAG DEEPLY WORRIED ABOUT ITS INTER-ARAB POSITON IN A POST-WAR WORLD IF SOVIETS ARE ABLE TO REGAIN MUCH OF INFLUENCE THEY LOST IN RECENT YEARS AS RESULT, TO CONSIDERABLE EXTENT, OF SAUDI EFFORTS. IN SUCH A WORLD, VOICES WOULD BE RAISED THAT WOULD LEAVE MODERATES-- GOJ AND SAG-- IN AWKWARD AND EXPOSED POSITION. ACCORDINGLY, WHAT MODERATES SOUGHT FROM USG WAS RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OR IMPOSITION OF U.N. RESOLUTION 242, EVEN IF THIS HAD TO BE DONE WITH PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH SOVIETS AND THEIR AGREEMENT. NAWWAR AGREED.

7. AT END OF MEETING, DOCTOR PHARAON NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR AKINS DUE TO ARRIVE EVENING OF OCTOBER 15. PRINCE NAWWAF THEN SAID THAT HE HAD READ A NUMBER OF AMBASSADOR AKINS' STATEMENTS TO PRESS WITH CARE AND HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY STRAIGHTFORWARDNESS AND BALANCE VISIBLE IN AMBASSADOR'S POSITION. HE HOPED THAT AKINS' AMBASSADORSHIP WOULD INAUGURATE PERIOD OF EVEN BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND ARAB WORLD.
HORAN

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